

WASHINGTON STATE FIRE DEFENSE COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 19, 2008
CONFERENCE CALL 10:00 A.M.

A regular meeting of the Washington State Fire Defense Committee was held on Tuesday, February 19, 2008 via Conference Call beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Members calling into the conference call were:

Central Region	Tedd Hendershot, Steve North
Northeast Region	Bill Walkup, Bruce Holloway
Mid Columbia Region	Randy Johnson, Dale Bjork
Northwest Region	Glenn Brautaset
Southeast Region	Grant Baynes,
Southwest Region	Dave Lafave, Tom McDowell
WSP Fire Protection Bureau	Paul Perz, Sue Carr, Esther Hernandez, Dan Johnson
	Cathy Nicholson
DNR	Joe Shramek
EMD	Ron Wilson
South Puget Sound Region	Dan Smith

Chair Dave Lafave called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Announcements:

EMD: RON WILSON

- ☺ April 5th and 6th, 2008, at the Hammer location there will be the 8th Annual **FREE** Hazmat Workshop; no prerequisites; Lunches will be provided both days. Training to be at the Hammer facility in Richland, Washington.

Introductions:

Correspondence:

- ☺ Nothing pending correspondence at this time.

Topics for Discussion:

☺ **#1. Credentialing & Tracking qualifications for service personnel & Type 3 Teams.**

On February 27th, Dave Lafave will attend a scheduled meeting with Region 6 & the Forest Service to discuss several areas of interest with DNR, WSP, BLM and other stakeholders.

(Randy Johnson) Based on a previous conference call with Dave Lafave, Mike Matlick and Paul Perz, Randy understood that WSP was to visit DNR to review the IQS data tracking system. Randy inquired if WSP had the opportunity to review the data tracking system. Further discussion included the ability of WSP to use the IQS data system to do the credentialing for Type 3 Teams, and if WSP would commit to assuming responsibility maintaining the data base.

(Paul Perz) WSP has not met with DNR to review the IQS data tracking system but will do so prior to the February 27th meeting at DNR. Several people commented that they charge a local fee in order to update data at the local level. Paul believes more analysis is needed regarding staffing and total costs before making any decisions.

(Sue Carr & Dan Johnson) believe a Type 3 position can get by with ½ an FTE, and as time goes on to increase the position to 1 (one) full time position possibly by the end of the year. Working with a Type 3 team & individual overhead & resources could equal an OA2 or OA3 position approximately between \$36,000 - \$40,000/year.

(Dave Lafave) Believes it should all tie into the Ross system.

(Joe Schramek) The meeting on February 27th is designed to determine the preliminary work that needs to be done. DNR has already expressed willingness to pay for the position. Joe said there was a pilot process of payment done a few years ago.

(Bill Walkup) didn't feel this was directly related to the issue.

(Bruce Holloway) Felt Type 2 & 3 teams for Wildfires still have to be NWCG. Certification is the issue.

(Dave Lafave) The goal is not to have multiple systems

(Glenn Brautaset) Colorado hit the nail on the head with a system that encompasses both NWCG and All Risk components. Our system must be all inclusive. We must determine exactly what we want WSP or DNR to do, define expectations. No cost can be determined when we don't know what we want them to do.

(Dave Lafave) Where is it to live? What will it take to make it happen?

(Glenn Brautaset) Preference would be with the Washington State Patrol as they have both law enforcement and fire service concerns.

(Dave Lafave) suggests DNR for dispatching and WSP for tracking and credentialing component.

(Randy Johnson) Need for WSP/FPB to use IQS Data Base for tracking wild land qualifications and to work with DNR and put all info into a central data base.

(Joe Schramek) How does WSP/FPB feel about working with DNR?

(Paul Perz; Sue Carr; Dan Johnson) All say "yes". No problem.

(Dave Lafave) This is the first time the Forest Service agreed to participate in funding this. It is in everyone's best interest to work with them. They are looking for whole range of resources. There are several issues. Portal to Portal is one. (Dave doesn't feel this should be an issue as its Not Going to Happen). Another issue is whose payment rates will apply? Another issue may be multiple points of dispatch when it needs to have a single point of ordering dispatch. The whole process needs standardization.

Bottom line is: Stick with the plan once one is made.
No negotiations, there are no options.
Here is the standard that is being offered only.

(Dan Johnson) Feels the payment problem could be solved with contracts, such as are currently being done locally.

(Glenn Brautaset) asks: How do we want it to work?

Do we want to use mobilizations payment process?

Should FPB be the contact for DNR and use a phone tree?

Should data be centralized or use our own data?

What works best for the state?

Should data input be done by web or in house IQS done by individual departments?

Should this be done contractual? or Should work load be done in Regions itself?

Should IMST develop a contract using grant money to offset having them do it all?

(Dave Lafave) Would it take legislation to get this done? We need to have options by the 27th done up.

(Bill Walkup) Try to work out a solution. We have a plan in place with bench marks done.

(Randy Johnson) No one opposes the Fire Marshals Office for qualifications and building a data base. In the past, lack of agreements in place caused resources to go unused. Is FPB interested and capable to do it? How soon can information be sent in to build a data base.

(Dave Lafave) Agreed that would be an option. Tie cost to a local administrative fee?

(Glenn Brautaset) MST per review, Ross status and charge \$40/card/year. Rural fire districts may not have the money to pay creating another problem.

(Bruce Holloway) the fundamental issue is IQS vs. Ross. What hardware to be used?

(Paul Perz) Before costs can be set, everyone needs to define expectations and responsibilities. We don't want to reinvent the wheel. With the IQS system, we need to look and determine what we need to implement.

(Dave LaFave) Issue of cost is premature. He is clear on what he will go forward with.

(Randy Johnson) asked is there was anything any of the committee members could do to help Paul Perz.

(Dave Lafave) Would rather pay a public organization over a private agency but is open to anything when being discussed on the 27th.

(Dan Smith) asked for clarification of Single Point of Origin, whether DNR or Mobilization. If taken out of the Regions it loses perspective of what resources are available.

(Dave Lafave) This element must be included. It's about process and communication.

#2. EMAC Process

(Grant Baynes) Concerned about unnecessary questioning which causes delay in payments.

(Ron Wilson) Has two specific personnel working solely on EMAC to help expedite process.

(Grant Baynes) Was grateful for the limited help provided by Dan Johnson.

(Ron Wilson) Doesn't understand the issue, except possibly with payments.

(Grant Baynes) The issue is, the nature of questions being asked. (Specifically regarding to strike teams and who was and who wasn't in uniform while in camp). Also the point of bringing this up is to highly recommend or suggest the inclusion of the Fire Mobilization process into the Washington system.

(Ron Wilson) will try to keep a closer look on the pulse of things.

(Dan Johnson) The uniform issue may stem from California's rules stating they couldn't be at base camp unless they were in uniform.

(Ron Wilson) Wants to get EMAC together with FDC to get into sync with the mobilization process. EMD is being very responsive and trying to improve their process.

(Paul Perz) EMD (Tim Clark, Terry Egan, Jim Mullen) and WSP (Deputy Chief Paul Beckley, Mike Matlick, Paul Perz) Met and discussed the EMAC and mobe processes. Tim Clark committed to continue meeting with fire chiefs to discuss ways to improve the EMAC process. He also committed to convene a meeting for all state agencies involved in mobilization some time after the legislative session ends.

Reports:

1. Fire Protection Bureau – The issue that was raised at the last FDC meeting regarding supervisors requiring crews to work during lunch breaks but not allowing them to record the time worked on their time sheets, WSP/FPB is discussing a policy change which would pay crews on the line for lunch time during mobilizations. Further discussion with DNR is needed and will be reported on when finalized.

Frank Garza, North Bend Fire Training Academy, is in the process of developing a full blown Regional Training program and is currently looking at a Regional Training plan in Pasco.

2. Emergency Management – Ron Wilson thanked everyone who contributed to enlightening him on issues with EMD. Ron also made mention of an upcoming training at Hammer, in Richland, WA, for the Annual Hazmat Workshop.
3. DNR – Nothing to report
4. FPPB - T.J. Nedrow gave an outline on the Strategic Plan
5. Geographic Board – Nothing to report.
6. PNWCG – Training people; course content; clarification is forthcoming.
7. All Risk Legislation/Changes - Dave Lafave suggested looking at the curriculum for All Hazard Incident Management Training for Type 3 teams.

Action Items for this meeting:

None

Minutes:

- ☺ The minutes of the January 15th, 2008 meeting were approved as submitted.

2008 Washington State Fire Defense Committee Schedule of Meetings

. January	15th	Conference Call
. February	19th	Conference Call
. March	18th	Kelso
. April	15th	Olympia
. May	20th	Chelan
. June	17th	Yakima
. July	15th	Camp Murray
. August		No Meeting
. September	16th	Vancouver
. October	21st	Spokane
. November	18th	Lynnwood
. December		No Meeting